



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/552,277	Hans-Peter Merkel	034193-031
		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
		PCT/EP04/03040
21839	I.A. FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE
BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC	03/23/2004	04/04/2003
POST OFFICE BOX 1404		
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404		

CONFIRMATION NO. 4038  
371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER

\*OC000000021307010\*

Date Mailed: 11/24/2006

## NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

09/14/2006

09/14/2006

DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and  
(c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371  
REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 10/04/2005
- English Translation of the IA filed on 10/04/2005
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 10/04/2005
- Copy of IPE Report filed on 10/04/2005
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 10/04/2005
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 10/04/2005
- Oath or Declaration filed on 09/14/2006
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 10/04/2005
- Assignment filed on 09/14/2006
- Priority Documents filed on 10/04/2005
- Power of Attorney filed on 09/14/2006

- Specification filed on 10/04/2005
  - Claims filed on 10/04/2005
  - Abstracts filed on 10/04/2005
  - Drawings filed on 10/04/2005
- 

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

---

WINSTON M ALVARADO  
Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 206

PART 3 - OFFICE COPY

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)